

**AMENDMENTS TO THE ABSTRACT**

Please substitute the following paragraph for the currently-existing paragraph in the Abstract:

A starting device and starting method for a single-phase induction motor, housing: a stator having a running coil and a starting coil; a running switch and a starting switch which is conducted to an open condition upon completion of the motor start. The starting device includes: a starting circuit including a control unit which receives, from a current sensor, signals representative of the current level being supplied to the stator, the control unit being connected to the running and the starting switches, for instruction the open and closed conditions thereof, the open condition of the starting switch being defined when the ratio between the present current level supplied to the stator and the starting current level, upon the closing of the starting and the running switches, reaches a predetermined value.